



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Public Affairs Office
2400 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704

Contact: Lt. Col. Tim Donovan
608-242-3050
Cell: 608-516-1777

February 7, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two more Wisconsin Army National Guard units called to active duty

Two more Wisconsin Army National Guard engineer units will be ordered to active duty Monday [Feb. 10] for an initial period of up to one year.

The 829th Engineer Detachment, Richland Center, has an authorized strength of 58 soldiers. The unit's plumbers, electricians, carpenters and masons are normally involved in missions that include building and upgrading facilities. In December 2001, 12 members of the 829th Engineer Detachment were ordered to active duty and were deployed to Central Asia for about six months. They returned to Wisconsin in June 2002.

The 106th Engineer Detachment, Ashland, with 54 members authorized, operates a rock crushing machine at quarry sites to make gravel for road construction.

The units will mobilize Monday at their respective local armories.

These new activations are part of the partial mobilization of the Guard and Reserve ordered by President Bush in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. More than 112,000 Guard and Reserve personnel nationwide are presently serving on active duty under the partial mobilization, supporting Operations Enduring Freedom (overseas U.S. military operations to combat terrorism) and Noble Eagle (homeland defense and security operations in the continental United States).

These will be the 20th and 21st Wisconsin National Guard mobilizations since the end of the Gulf War in 1991, when more than 1,400 Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard personnel from nine units were mobilized.

Mobilization of these soldiers will bring the total number of Wisconsin National Guard soldiers and airmen currently on active duty to about 1,235. In addition to the 829th Engineer Detachment and 106th Quarry Team, there are currently seven other Army National Guard units, one Army National Guard air base security task force, and three Air National Guard units on active duty. More than 1,930 Wisconsin National Guard soldiers and airmen will have served on active duty during the past 16 months.